

Article XIII.—DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF
MESOPLODON FROM CANTERBURY PROVINCE,
 NEW ZEALAND.

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PLATE XIII.

Mesoplodon bowdoini sp. nov.

Among the Cetacean specimens in the American Museum of Natural History, is the skeleton of a *Mesoplodon* (No. 35027) apparently representing a species hitherto undescribed. It was collected at New Brighton Beach, Canterbury Province, New Zealand, in 1904. The sutures of the skull are all closed and the terminal epiphyses of the vertebral bodies are completely ankylosed, in most cases their lines of union being indistinguishable. The mesethmoid or "mesorostral" cartilage is also densely ossified throughout its entire extent. Therefore, the specimen must be adult. The sex is unknown, but I believe it to be a male.

This specimen is evidently closely related to *M. bidens*, and the allied *M. europæus*, its skull agreeing fairly well in general proportions with those species as figured by Van Beneden and Gervais in their "Ostéographie des Cétacés."¹ Measurements of the skull are given in the appended table, and also the ratio of the length of the different parts to its total length; with these are compared the corresponding ratios for the skulls of *M. bidens* and *M. europæus* based on the above-mentioned figures given by Van Beneden and Gervais.

Measurements of Skull.

	<i>M. bowdoini.</i>		<i>M. europæus.</i>	<i>M. bidens.</i>
	mm.	%	%	%
Extreme length of cranium	715	100	100	100
Length of rostrum (from line between bottoms of real max. notches)	428	59.8	60.4	62.5

¹ Ostéographie des Cétacés, plates XXVI and XXIV.